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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

REPORT NO.

## INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY

East Germany

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Working Conditions at Oberspreewerk

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- 1. The OSI high frequency plant has been given up by SAG Kabel and turned into a VaB under the Linistry for Posts. New salary scales are being fixed in these factories. Wages of technical employees in offices for the development of high frequency devices have also been adjusted according to a directive on general machine construction. The result has been a slight increase for esigners and development engineers, Politically reliable people are especially favored. Scientific specialists, however, are not affected; they are subject to a special regulation providing for individual contracts. Only a few people in the plant belong to the last group,
- 2. The majority of designers, draftsmen, specialists and administrative employees receive no salary increase. Employees receiving incentive wages (Leistungslohn) are in a worse position since work norms are continually raised. General dissatisfaction about the transition into a VaB is therefore great; it is not lessened by the increase in political indoctrination. Increased schooling and assembly activity, recruitment for the "defense of the DDR", assumption of personal obligations (Selbstverpflichtungen), stricter control and the surrender of managerial duties to party-line functionaries are also irritating to employees.
- 3. Lorking space is steadily diminishing because the best rooms are being freed for the many political organizations. In the instrument construction office, 44 people are now working in place of the previous 30. Rooms are greatly over-crowded. Many proven employees have given notice. Newly-engaged personnel are apt to be down-the-line Sab members without great technical knowledge.
- 4. The new chief designer, (fnu) Biniek, hires new employees with special regard for their political points of view. Technical competence thus suffers. Fuch designing has to be done over three or four times until a construction model works well. Often, for lack of scientists, work must be based on particulars in the few available west German and American technical-scientific publications.

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